

Ser. No. 10/655,176

### Remarks

Claims 1-10 were pending in the application. Claims 1 and 2 were rejected. Claims 3-5 were merely objected to and claims 6-10 were allowed. By the foregoing amendment, no claims are canceled, claims 1 and 3-5 are amended, and claims 11-20 are added. No new matter is presented.

### Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants appreciate the indications of allowable subject matter in claims 3-10. New independent claims 15, 17, and 19 respectively are claims 3-5 in independent form. Their dependent claims are supported by claim 2. The amendments to claims 3-5 avoid redundancy with the new claims (with claim 3 amended to reference the second outlet and claims 4 and 5 being made dependent upon 3). Accordingly, claims 3-5 clearly remain patentable.

### The Specification

The foregoing amendment to the specification deletes text that was not part of the application and should not have been published. The text was from a parts list expressly identified as not part of the application but erroneously included in the envelope upon filing.

### Claim Objections

Claim 1 was objected to for an informality. By the foregoing amendment, this has been corrected as helpfully proposed by the examiner.

### Claims Rejections-35 U.S.C. 103

Claims 1 and 2 were rejected under 35 U.S.C 103(a) as being unpatentable over Slaughter, Jr. (U.S. Patent No. 4,582,149) in view of Cornelius et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,810,265). Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

Slaughter, Jr. discloses a rock drill bit with three frusto-conical rotary cutters. Col. 2, lines 5-6. Cornelius et al. relates to an electrostatic spray device for dispensing air freshener and the like. Col. 1, lines 4-10. The Office Action asserted that "the convoluted inner surface of the nozzle contributes to the resistance to distortion of the nozzle during use." Office Action, page 5,

Ser. No. 10/655,176

second paragraph. This appears to be appropriate only in the example of a flexible tube asserted to be the nozzle. See col. 2, lines 49-51 of Cornelius et al. Accordingly, the Office Action asserted that it would have been obvious "to have modified Slaughter's nozzle with a convoluted inner surface as taught by Cornelius '265 in order to strengthen the resistance to distortion of the nozzle during use."

Clearly, regarding claim 2, there is no suggestion that a laser sintered ceramic body (also referenced in several of the new dependent claims) is subject to such flexing distortion for which the Cornelius et al. convolutions are a solution.

More generally, there is no suggestion for the proposed combination asserted against claim 1. There is no indication that Slaughter, Jr. suffers from such distortion. Furthermore, Slaughter, Jr. discloses nozzles 14 discharging jetted streams of fluid 17. Col. 2, line 3. There is no suggestion that such streams are compatible with the particular convolutions taught by Cornelius et al.

New dependent claim 11 identifies the nozzle in combination with a disk, thereby further distinguishing the rock bit of Slaughter, Jr. and thus the proposed combination with Cornelius et al.

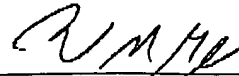
New independent claim 13 identifies the convoluted section as corresponding to convoluted portions of the slots as shaped by the bit. The proposed combination of references suggests no relationship between the convolutions of the nozzle and the bit. Rather, the convolutions of the nozzle would, inherently, be on a much smaller scale than the shape of the bit.

Ser. No. 10/655,176

Accordingly, Applicants submit that claims 1-20 are in condition for allowance. Please charge any fees or deficiency or credit any overpayment to our Deposit Account of record.

Respectfully submitted,

By



William B. Slate

Attorney for Applicants

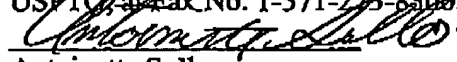
Reg. No.: 37,238

Telephone: 203-777-6628

Telefax: 203-865-0297

Date: September 21, 2005

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being faxed this 21<sup>st</sup> day of September, 2005 to the USPTO at Fax No. 1-571-273-8300.

  
Antoinette Sullo